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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/643,404	08/18/2003	Takayuki Tanaka	59753 (48185)	3999

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EXAMINER

KWON, BRIAN YONG S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1614

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/22/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/643,404

Applicant(s)

TANAKA ET AL.

Examiner

Brian S. Kwon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01/25/07.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4 and 5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4 and 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Application

1. Acknowledgement is made of applicants' filing of the instant application as a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.1114. Claims 1 and 4-5 are currently pending for prosecution on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 1, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for treating the restenosis or neointimal formation caused by coronary angioplasty, percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) or a coronary-artery bypass graft (CABG), does not reasonably provide enablement for the term "therapy wall injury...". The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to practice the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

The factors to be considered in determining whether a disclosure meets the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, have been described in *In re Wands*, 8 USPQ2d 1400 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Among these factors are: (1) the nature of the invention; (2) the state of the prior art; (3) the relative skill of those in the art; (4) the predictability or unpredictability of the art; (5) the breadth of the claims; (6) the amount of direction or guidance presented; (7) the

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presence or absence of working examples; and (8) the quantity of experimentation necessary.

When the above factors are weighed, it is the examiner's position that one skilled in the art could not practice the invention without undue experimentation.

The inventions relate to a method of preventing or treating arterial wall injury which is caused by coronary angioplasty or coronary artery bypass graft. The instant specification broadly defines the term "arterial wall injury" as "neointimal formation, the restenosis or reocclusion of vascular lumens or decrease in elasticity and flexibility" (page 12, lines 3-5).

The scope of the instantly claimed "arterial wall injury" caused by coronary angioplasty or coronary artery bypass graft encompasses not only neointimal formation or restenosis caused by PTCA or CABG, but also various other diseases characterized by "decrease in elasticity and flexibility" or "reocclusion of vascular lumens" subsequent to coronary angioplasty or coronary artery bypass graft, for example hypertension.

With respect to the scope of enablement for "arterial wall injury" which is caused by coronary angioplasty or coronary artery bypass graft,

The relative skill of those in the art of pharmaceuticals and the unpredictability of the pharmacy art is high. The specification does not provide any competent evidence or disclosed tests that are highly predictive for the therapeutic utility of the instant compound.

The specification discloses study showing the efficacy of 3-methyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazolin-5-one (edaravone) in decreasing neointimal formation caused by balloon injury to the abdominal aorta or carotid artery of the animal (i.e., rabbits or rat)(Examples). However, there is no

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demonstrated correlation the tests and results apply to the arterial wall diseases embraced by the instant claims, for example hypertension.

For example, hypertension and restenosis are recognized in the art as totally different conditions, and the skill artisan would not have known that the administration of said compound having the activity of reducing neointimal formation would provide therapeutic utility in the treatment of said "arterial wall injuries" including hypertension, without undue amount of the experimentation.

In view of limited numbers of working examples, the insufficient amount of guidance present in the specification, the nature of the invention, the state of art, the breadth of the claim and the relative skills of the artisan and the predictability of the pharmaceutical art would take "undue painstaking experimentation" to practice the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Okazaki et al. (US 2004/0242455 A1).

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Okazaki teaches a use of composition comprising 5-amidino-N-(2-aminophenethyl)-2-hydroxybenzenesulfonamide derivative and free-radical scavengers such as the claimed edaravone for the treatment of restenosis and reocclusion after coronary intervention such as percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) or percutaneous transluminal coronary recanalization (PTCR) surgery (para. [0179], [0194], claims 6, 9, 12-13 and 24-25).

Conclusion

4. No Claim is allowed.
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Kwon whose telephone number is (571) 272-0581. The examiner can normally be reached Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 am to 7:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ardin Marschel, can be reached on (571) 272-0718. The fax number for this Group is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications may be obtained from Private PAIR only. For more information about PAIR system,

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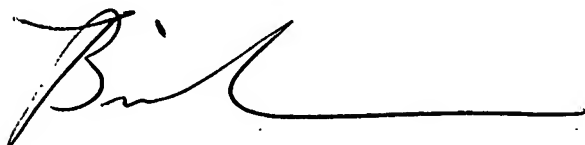
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see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov> Should you have any questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

Brian Kwon
Primary Patent Examiner
AU 1614

BRIAN-YONG S. KWON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.